

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 39 (Presently Amended) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and an antibacterial agent that specifically binds to an S-yneS polypeptide, wherein the antibacterial agent is identified as a candidate antibacterial agent by a method comprising:

- (a) contacting an S-yneS polypeptide with a test compound; and
- (b) detecting binding an interaction of the test compound with the S-yneS polypeptide, wherein binding an interaction indicates that the test compound is a candidate antibacterial agent.

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Claim 40 (Presently Amended) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and an antibacterial agent that specifically binds to an S-yneS polypeptide, wherein the antibacterial agent is identified by a method comprising:

- (a) contacting an S-yneS polypeptide with a test compound;
- (b) detecting binding an interaction of the test compound with the S-yneS polypeptide, wherein binding an interaction indicates that the test compound is a candidate to be an antibacterial agent; and
- (c) determining whether the candidate antibacterial agent inhibits growth of bacteria, relative to growth of bacteria cultured in the absence of the candidate antibacterial agent that interacts binds with the polypeptide, wherein inhibition of growth indicates that the candidate antibacterial agent is an antibacterial agent.